

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because figures 2, 3 and 4 are not of sufficient quality to permit understanding of the figures, where each figure includes a sort of title that is not legible.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gatto et al. (Pub No US 2003/0037335). Hereinafter referenced as Gatto.

Regarding **claim 1**, Gatto discloses a method for operating a television apparatus having a plurality of devices coupled thereto via a digital serial bus (figure 1), the method comprising:

receiving user selection of a first one of the plurality of devices as a designated video input source device (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1)

and a second one of the plurality of devices as a designated sink device (Paragraph [0008]; output the input content to a recorder);

and transmitting commands to the designated video input source device and the designated sink device (Paragraph [0041] fig 1; bus interface) to establish a peer to peer connection between the designated video input source device and the designated sink device (Paragraph [0007] [0046] fig 1; where IEEE 1394 is a P2P interface),

whereby data may be directly transferred between the designated video input device and the designated sink device (Paragraph [0014]).

Regarding **claim 2**, Gatto discloses the method of claim 1; moreover, Gatto discloses that the designated sink device is a digital recording device (Paragraph [0008]; output the input content to a recorder),

and the transmitting step comprises causing the digital recording device to record digital content from the designated video input source device in response to the user selection (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1).

Regarding **claim 3**, Gatto discloses the method of claim 2; moreover, Gatto discloses that the digital serial bus comprises an IEEE 1394 compliant bus (Paragraph [0007] [0046] fig 1).

Regarding **claim 6**, Gatto discloses the method of claim 2; moreover, Gatto discloses the step of displaying video content stored on the digital recording device on the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital recording device as the designated video signal source device (Paragraph [00128]).

Regarding **claims 7, 8, 9 and 12**, Gatto discloses all the limitations of claims 7, 8, 9 and 12; therefore, claims 7, 8, 9 and 12 are rejected for the same reasons as in claims 1, 2, 3 and 6, respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 16** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gatto in view of Geer et al. (Patent No US 6,788,882). Hereinafter, referenced as Geer.

Regarding **claim 4**, Gatto discloses the method of claim 2; moreover, Gatto discloses causing the digital recording device to record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1)

However, it is noted that Gatto fails to explicitly disclose causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor Geer discloses causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus (Col. 1 lines 63-67; col. 2 lines 1-27).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gatto by specifically providing the elements

mentioned above, as taught by Geer, for the purpose of recording as much content as possible for the viewer, providing customer satisfaction since the user can record as much content as they want.

Regarding **claim 5**, Gatto discloses the method of claim 2; moreover, Gatto discloses the causing step comprises causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1).

However, it is noted that Gatto fails to explicitly disclose causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor Geer discloses causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device (Col 12 lines 55-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gatto by specifically providing the elements mentioned above, as taught by Geer, for the purpose of recording as much content as possible for the viewer, providing customer satisfaction since the user can record as

much content as they want; moreover, the users would be capable of performing VCR-like functions.

Regarding **claims 10 and 11**, Gatto and Geer disclose all the limitations of claims 10 and 11; therefore, claims 10 and 11 are rejected for the same reasons as in claims 4 and 5, respectively.

Regarding **claim 13**, Gatto discloses a method for operating a television apparatus connected to an IEEE 1394 compliant bus port (Paragraph [0007] [0046] fig 1), the method comprising:

receiving user selection of a designated digital video input source device connected to the television apparatus via the IEEE compliant bus (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1);

and causing an IEEE 1394 compliant recording device connected to the television apparatus via the IEEE 1394 compliant bus to establish a peer to peer connection with the designated digital video input source device (Paragraph [0007] [0041] [0046] fig 1; where IEEE 1394 is a P2P interface),

However, it is noted that Gatto fails to explicitly disclose to continuously record the digital content from the designated digital video input source device without further processing of the data by the television apparatus.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor Geer discloses to continuously record the digital content from the designated digital video input source device without further processing of the data by the television apparatus (Col 12 lines 55-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gatto by specifically providing the elements mentioned above, as taught by Geer, for the purpose of recording as much content as possible for the viewer, providing customer satisfaction since the user can record as much content as they want; moreover, the users would be capable of performing VCR-like functions..

Regarding **claim 14**, Gatto and Geer disclose the method of claim 13; moreover; Gatto discloses causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to record video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital tuning device as the designated digital input source device (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1).

However, it is noted that Gatto fails to explicitly disclose causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to continuously record video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor Geer discloses causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to continuously record video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus (Col. 1 lines 63-67; col. 2 lines 1-27).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gatto by specifically providing the elements mentioned above, as taught by Geer, for the purpose of recording as much content as possible for the viewer, providing customer satisfaction since the user can record as much content as they want.

Regarding **claim 15**, Gatto and Geer disclose the method of claim 13; moreover, Gatto discloses the causing step comprises causing the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device to continuously record digital video content from a digital tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the digital tuning device as the designated digital input source device (Paragraph [0013] and [0014] fig 1).

However, it is noted that Gatto fails to explicitly disclose causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor Geer discloses causing the digital recording device to continuously record video content from a tuning device of the television apparatus in response to user selection of the tuning device as the designated input source device into a predefined buffer size of a storage medium of the digital recording device (Col 12 lines 55-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gatto by specifically providing the elements

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mentioned above, as taught by Geer, for the purpose of recording as much content as possible for the viewer, providing customer satisfaction since the user can record as much content as they want; moreover, the users would be capable of performing VCR-like functions..

Regarding **claim 16**, Gatto and Geer disclose the method of claim 13; moreover; Gatto discloses the step of displaying video content stored on the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device on the television apparatus in response to user selection of the IEEE 1394 compliant recording device as the designated digital video signal source device (Paragraph [00128] fig 8).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JUNIOR O. MENDOZA whose telephone number is (571)270-3573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Koenig can be reached on (571)272-7296. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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